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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,887	10/28/2003	Richard Meyer	00121-000600000	7792
7590 09/24/2007 Law Office Of Leland Wiesner 1144 Fife Ave. Palo Alto, CA 94301			EXAMINER NAWAZ, ASAD M	
			ART UNIT 2155	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/24/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

m/v

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/695,887	MEYER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Asad M. Nawaz	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the preliminary amendment received 3/13/06.

Claims 21-29 were renumbered 20-28 in accordance with rule 1.126. Accordingly, claims 1-28 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Blumenau et al (USPGPUB: 2002/0007445)

As to claim 1, Blumenau teaches a method for adding a storage controller node in a storage area network, comprising: receiving a storage controller node to add to a logical storage controller in the storage area network having a logical nodename and a sequence of logical ports (0007, 0121);

adopting the logical nodename from the logical storage controller in place of the predetermined nodename associated with the storage controller (0081);

and renumbering a set of ports associated with the storage controller to extend the sequence of logical ports associated with the logical storage controller (0081).

As to claim 2, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: generating configuration information reflecting the additional storage controller added to the logical storage controller and the set of ports added to the corresponding sequence of logical ports; and distributing the configuration information to one or more storage controllers associated with the logical storage controller (0081).

As to claim 3, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the logical nodename associated with the logical storage controller is derived from a predetermined nodename associated with one storage controller (0081-0086).

As to claim 4, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined nodename from the first storage controller added to the logical storage controller is used for the logical nodename (0087-0088).

As to claim 5, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the logical nodename is a unique world wide node name (WWN) (0081).

As to claim 6 Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the sequence of logical ports is a contiguous numeric sequence of ports generated as sets of ports from each storage controller are added to the logical storage controller.

As to claim 7, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein each storage controller in the logical storage controller communicates with each other over an external communication link (0016).

As to claim 8, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 1 wherein each storage controller added to the logical storage controller is designated a role selected from a set of roles including: a primary storage controller, a secondary storage controller and a alternate storage controller (0175).

As to claim 9, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 8 wherein the secondary storage controller performs tasks assigned to the primary storage controller when the primary storage controller experiences a failure (0133-0136).

As to claim 10, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 2 wherein the configuration information generated includes metadata describing the geometry of one or more volumes of data managed by the logical storage controller (0140).

As to claim 11, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 10 wherein the metadata information is selected from a set including: number of physical devices, physical device identifiers, ranges of blocks on the physical devices and total number of blocks (0077).

As to claim 12, Blumenau teaches the method of claim 2 wherein distributing the configuration information is performed using an application programming interface compatible with one or more databases (0108).

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Claims 13-28 present no further limitations above claims 1-12 above and are thus rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asad M. Nawaz whose telephone number is (571) 272-3988. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AMN


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER